

Message Text

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ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-10 INSE-00 VO-05 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 IO-13 /044 W
-----042227 311127Z /10

P 311112Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0290
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 25180

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: SREF
SUBJ: HOST COUNTRY DEADLINES FOR MOVING REFUGEES
ARRIVING BY SHIP

REF A. STATE 219150 B. STATE 163984 C. BANGKOK 24734

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1. REF A REITERATES POLICY STATED IN REF B, THAT THE U.S. CANNOT GUARANTEE TO HOST GOVERNMENTS THAT LRP REFUGEES WILL BE MOVED WITHIN A SPECIFIC TIME FRAME. WE HAVE NOT MADE ANY SUCH GUARANTEES FOR LRP REFUGEES. REF C REFERRED TO REFUGEES RESCUED BY THE TOMOCO AND THE STYX. ALL WERE MOVED UNDER IPP.

2. PER REF A, PARA 3, WE HAVE INFORMED THE UNHCR THAT IN THE FUTURE WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GUARANTEE MOVEMENT IN LESS THAN 90 DAYS FOR REFUGEES LANDED FROM U.S. SHIPS.

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THE RTG HOWEVER HAS ALWAYS DEMANDED GUARANTEES THAT REFUGEES DEPART WITHIN 30 DAYS BEFORE ALLOWING REFUGEES TO LAND.

3. WE HAVE EXPLAINED AGAIN TO THE UNHCR THAT, IF TIME GUARANTEES ARE NECESSARY, THE U.S. MINIMUM IS 90 DAYS AND THAT THIS IS ONLY POSSIBLE FOR REFUGEES ARRIVING ON U.S.

SHIPS. WE EXPLAINED FURTHER THAT REFUGEES WHO ARRIVE ON NON-U.S. VESSELS WILL BE TREATED LIKE ORDINARY BOAT REFUGEES AND PRESENTED TO INS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE POINTED OUT THAT SUCH REFUGEES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED, ALTHOUGH THERE IS A STRONG LIKELIHOOD THAT CATEGORY I-III REFUGEES COULD BE ACCEPTED BY THE U.S. IN A REASONABLY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.

4. WE PLAN TO ASK THAT UNHCR COMMISSIONER HARTLING RAISE THIS PROBLEM AT A HIGH LEVEL WITH THE RTG REQUESTING A SOFTENING OF THE 30-DAY LIMIT. WE WILL SUPPORT SUCH A UNHCR APPROACH IN OUR OWN DISCUSSIONS. OUT COME WILL BE REPORTED SEPTEL. ABRAMOWITZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, TRANSPORTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e5ad8457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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TAGS: SREF, TH
To: STATE
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